

## Live Green Partners for Businesses

*Encouraging and Recognizing an Efficient and Conscientious Business Culture*

### About the program

The Live Green Partners Program for businesses is a collaborative effort of local businesses, Leadership Franklin, and the City of Franklin to promote sustainable operations in the work place. The Sustainability Community Action Plan recommends the formation of a volunteer program to raise awareness and recognize those businesses that are taking strides in a sustainable direction.

The program is open to all businesses in Franklin on a volunteer basis, regardless of type and size, so long as they implement resource conservation measures and demonstrate a culture of sustainability in their business practices.

All participating businesses will receive a sticker to place in the window or on the door and also a certificate indicating their level of achievement, signed by the Mayor. All participating businesses will be listed on the City of Franklin website and each month, a business will be highlighted on the website. Every participating business will be listed on the Green Business Partnership website.

### Live Green Partners Criteria:

#### Achievement Levels

20-39 Points     Partner Level

40-79 Points     Bronze

80-119 Points     Silver

120-159 Points     Gold

160+ Points     Platinum

## Awareness & Basics

- Double Sided Print (5)
- Commitment to go digital and only print when necessary (5)
- Use non-print media as primary form of advertisement and marketing (5)
- Turning all lights and appliances off when not in use or using occupancy sensors (5)
- Install programmable thermostats, setting them to approximately 68 degrees in winter, 78 degrees in summer and 55 degrees at night OR comparable action (5)
- Instead of paper or plastic, ask if the customer needs a bag at all (5)
- Tell suppliers to use recycled and/or recyclable materials in packaging (5)
- Post Utility bills each month for employees to see (5)
- Sign up for “Green Tips” on <http://www.franklin-gov.com/livegreen/> (5)
- Designation of an employee who oversees environmental efforts (10)
- Encourage employees to suggest new conservation and cost-saving ideas (5)
- Encourage employees to walk, ride a bike, carpool, or take transit to work (10)
- Offer small discount to customers who walk or ride a bike (10)
- Buy goods made of recycled materials (10)

## Waste Reduction

- Recycle the following materials (10 for each)
  - Cardboard
  - Aluminum
  - Plastic
  - Glass
  - Mixed Paper
  - Cooking Oil
  - Toner Cartridges
  - Old batteries
- Compost Food Waste (20)
  - Find a use for the compost i.e. for a community or school garden (10)
- For restaurants, reuse the following when dining in (5 for each):
  - Utensils
  - Plates
  - Bowls
  - Cups
- For Restaurants offering a carryout service, make sure the following items are made of recycled or biodegradable materials (5 each):
  - Utensils
  - Plates
  - Bowls
  - Cups
  - To-Go Carriers

- Eliminate or significantly reduce usage of the following materials (in normal business operations as well as janitorial services)
  - Styrofoam (10)
  - Plastic Bags (10)
  - Bleached coffee filters (5)
  - Bleach (5)
  - Other harmful chemicals (5)

### **Green Cuisine**

- Organic Items (10)
- The 100 Mile Diet—Selling food, drinks, or goods produced within a 100 mile radius of Franklin {may only be possible on a seasonal basis} (15)

### **Water Conservation**

- Fixing all leaks or not having any leaks (5)
- Eliminate individual bottled water (10)
- As new plants are needed, use native, drought-resistant plants (10)
- Water only when needed (10)
- Redirect downspouts towards landscaped areas to treat runoff on site, where possible (10)
- Test irrigation system to ensure proper operation and watering schedule (10)
- Low-flow plumbing fixtures (15)
- Usage of a rain barrel or cistern to collect rainwater runoff (20)
- Install a rain garden (30)
- Installation of a green roof (50)
- Remove hardscape and install permeable paving (50)

### **Energy**

- Installation of Energy Efficient Light bulbs (CFLs or equivalent for indoor and LED for outdoor work best (10)
- Professional Energy Audit (20)
- When replacing equipment and appliances, ensure they are Energy Star rated and/or equipped with energy-saving features (20)
- Own/Occupy a third party certified, energy efficient building, i.e. LEED Certified (30)
- Usage of Alternative Energy
  - “Green Switch” Purchase 10% or more Renewable Energy (40)
  - Solar hot water heater (50)
  - Solar Panels (80)
  - Geothermal (80)
  - Other innovative action (case by case)

## Other

- Selling products manufactured or produced within 100 mile radius of Franklin (15)
- **The partnership seeks to reward and acknowledge creative and sustainable solutions. Live Green Partnership understands that this list may not capture every sustainable action so points may be awarded on a case by case basis and possibly added to the list over time.**

Initially, businesses that already meet the minimum threshold will be certified and used to help promote the program to other businesses.

Businesses that participate will receive recognition through the city's website, press releases, an award signed by the Mayor, and other media.